GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6896
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
CONNECTING OF VILLAGES WITH MOBILE NETWORK
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5000 villages with population above 5000 are likely to be connected with mobile network by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited till December,2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of villages and towns in each State of the country including Jharkhand and Bihar connected with mobile network alongwith the number of villages and towns in the country which is yet to be connected with mobile network;

(d) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has recently decided to connect all national highways and rail lines with its network; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has so far provided cellular service covering 3966 towns including all the District Headquarters except newly created districts or the districts falling in Buffer Zone. The expansion of the network is in progress to extend the coverage of additional towns upto Tehsil Headquarters. Due to vast coverage of national highways and railway routes about 6000 villages having population more than 5000 are benefited as on date by incidental coverage of cellular services.

(c) The details of towns and villages covered by BSNL with cellular services state-wise are given in the Annexure. Further expansion of cellular coverage in other towns including villages is to be decided depending upon techno-commercial viability.

(d) & (e) BSNL has already covered significant length of National Highways and proposes to cover all National Highway except where it is technically non-feasible, during current financial year. Only important Railway routes are proposed for cellular mobile coverage.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE DETAILS OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES COVERED BY BSNL MOBILE SERVICES.

Sl.No.	Circle	No. of Towns /Cities Covered with Cellular Services	Total No. of Villages	Total No. of Villages having Population 5000	No. of Villages having 5000 Population and Getting Incidental Cellular Coverage of BSN L
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	5	201	2	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	241	29460	2286	522
3.	Assam	53	24685	120	14
4.	Bihar	123	41077	3166	828
5.	Chhattisgarh	55	19720	25	33
6.	Gujarat	293	18125	960	485
7.	Haryana	106	6850	602	299
8.	Himachal Pradesh	88	16925	9	7
9.	J&K	38	6764	0	0
10.	Jharkhand	70	71703	364	183
11.	Karnataka	319	27066	839	285
12.	Kerala	511	1468	1280	1016

13.Madhya Pradesh	149	51806	382	20
14.Maharashtra including Goa	336	42467	1279	165
15.North East.I (Meghalaya,Mizoram, Tripura)	71	7125	172	84
16.North East II (Nagaland, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh)		7020		
17.Orissa	142	46989	184	50
18.Punjab	182	12687	223	100
19.Rajasthan	138	39483	761	119
20.Tamil Nadu including Pondicherry	318	17924	1530	522
21.Uttar Pradesh	526	103396	2550	862
22.Uttaranchal	54	15610	82	58
23.West Bengal including Sikkim	148	38774	1881	405
Total	3966	647325	18697	6058

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